

**ORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**October 30, 2003**  
**MINUTES**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Michael Sanders, DMD, Ed.M, Director of Patient Care Services, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV), School of Dental Medicine, State Dental Health Consultant, for Patricia Craddock  
Tim Elam, Educare  
Mark Rosenberg, DDS, U.S. Public Health Service  
Mike Johnson, LADC, BA, MS, Manager, Saint Mary's Outreach Programs  
Michelle Kling, RN, Division Director, Washoe County District Health Department (WCDHD)  
Tyree Davis, DDS, Clinical Manager, Miles for Smiles  
Joseph Patero, Senior Advocate  
Patricia Durbin, Deputy Director, Great Basin Primary Care Association (GBPCA)  
Maureen Fanning, RN, Public Health Nurse Manager, Clark County Health Department (CCHD)  
Pastor Anthony Steele, Bethel AME Church  
Victor A. Sandoval, MPH, DDS, Professor, UNLV School of Dental Medicine

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT**

Patricia Craddock, DDS, Chairperson, Nevada Dental Association  
Shari Peterson, RDH, M.Ed., University and Community College System of Nevada, Nevada Dental Hygienists' Association, Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners

**NEVADA STATE HEALTH DIVISION STAFF PRESENT**

Chris Forsch, RDH, BS, Oral Health Consultant, Bureau of Family Health Services (BFHS)  
Lori Cofano, RDH, BS, Fluoridation Consultant, BFHS  
Dennis Murphy, EdM, Health Education and Information Officer, BFHS  
Thara Salamone, MS, Oral Health Biostatistician, BFHS  
Laurie Nickles, RDH, MS, Oral Health Educator, BFHS  
Tawnya Cook, Administrative Assistant, BFHS

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Eli Schwartz, DDS, MPH, PhD, FHKAM, Chair-Elect for the Community Coalition for Oral Health  
William J. Busch, DDS, Executive Director, Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners

**CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Dr. Michael Sanders called the Oral Health Advisory Committee (OHAC) meeting to order at **10:05 a.m.** at Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS), 1161 Valley View, Las Vegas, Nevada; and the Department of Human Resources, 505 E. King Street, Room 601, Carson City, Nevada. This was a public meeting and the public was invited to make comments. In accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law, this meeting was posted at the following locations: Kinhead Building, Carson City; Bureau of Family Health Services, Carson City; Nevada State Library and Archives, Carson City; WCDHD, Reno; CCHD, Las Vegas; Elko Nursing Office, Elko; Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS), Las Vegas; and on the Nevada State Health Division website at [www.health2k.state.nv.us](http://www.health2k.state.nv.us).

Introductions were made around the table in all locations.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MEETING OF JULY 11, 2003**

Dr. Sanders called for comments or corrections to the July 11, 2003 meeting minutes. Maureen Fanning stated her title should be changed from Supervisor to Manager. Mike Johnson motioned for approval of the minutes with changes and Dr. Victor Sandoval seconded. **MOTION APPROVED.**

### **REPORT FROM STATE DENTAL HEALTH CONSULTANT AND COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING STATE DENTAL HEALTH CONSULTANT REPORT**

Dr. Sanders stated the trip to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) was very enlightening. He felt positive about the accomplishments reached in Nevada with assistance from CDC. He noted Kathy Heiden, CDC Project Officer, would be leaving. Dr. Sanders stated the report on Oral Health for Older Americans in the United States and Nevada was alarming. It is an issue which needs to be addressed. Christine Forsch added, the Nevada Oral Health Program is funded by the CDC Oral Health grant. Twelve states are funded by the grant under a pilot project with ten goals, which must be achieved. Once all ten goals are fulfilled, the states are eligible to apply for a higher level of funding up to \$1 million. Ms. Forsch stated the most challenging goals would most likely be reaching 75% fluoridation and 50% dental sealants. January 8, 2004, a CDC evaluation team will be arriving in Las Vegas to assist Nevada in setting up an evaluation plan. Ms. Forsch asked for representatives from OHAC to participate by providing input and discussing areas in need of improvement.

### **ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM REPORT AND COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM GOALS**

Ms. Forsch reviewed the goals with the Committee.

- **Goal #1** is to maintain oral health program leadership capacity. Dr. Sanders conducted a site visit to the Yerington clinic that is targeted to open in early winter. His visit was appreciated by those involved in the clinics planning. A dentist and hygienist have been hired. The Lyon County Healthy Smiles Board has been created to oversee clinics in Yerington and Silver Springs.
- **Goal #2** is to describe the oral health disease burden health disparities and unmet needs in the state. The Healthy Smile Happy Child (HSHC) 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Screening Report has been printed. The Burden Document and Annual Report are being printed. Ms. Forsch suggested to Administration the reports be mailed out, with a press release the following day. She commended Thara Salamone for her work on the Burden Document. Ms. Durbin stated Great Basin Primary Care Association (GBPCA) created a document, which has been well accepted by Legislators. This document is being used as a reference. She suggested the reports be mailed along with the reference material in its second release. Pastor Anthony Steele would like to see the documents sent to Faith Based Organizations (FBOs), as there is a tremendous outreach among the FBOs. Dr. Mark Rosenberg asked if GBPCA has a Dental Health Consultant. Ms. Durbin stated they do not. Dr. Rosenberg noted the importance of utilizing mentors and not leaving new dentists alone in rural areas. Ms. Durbin asked to meet with Dr. Rosenberg regarding the issue. Dr. Eli Schwartz asked if electronic communication is available in the clinics. Ms. Durbin stated the goal is to have connectability available before the end of the year. Tim Elam discussed an electronic support system being developed for those with special needs. The technology is available for the project, but many times linking networks can be challenging. He suggested tracking Oral Health with similar systems.
- **Goal #3** is to update a comprehensive five-year State Oral Health Plan. The State Oral Health Plan, which will be 2 years old in January 2004, is in need of updating. The State Oral Health Summit is planned for January 23, 2004 at the Atlantis Hotel in Reno. The Oral Health Advisory Committee is invited to attend. Ms. Forsch is anticipating approximately 50 people will participate in the Summit. The planning committee for the Summit consists of Dr. Sanders, Dr. Rosenberg, and Mike Rodolico of Health Access Washoe County (HAWC). Social

Entrepreneurs Inc. has been hired to help facilitate the Summit. The meeting will be structured around the Surgeon General's Call to Action.

- **Goal #4** is to sustain a diverse statewide oral health coalition to assist in formulation of plans, guide project activities and identify additional financial resources. Twenty thousand dollars is available to convene the State Oral Health Summit. In addition to updating the State Oral Health Plan, another goal is to bring all the various coalition members throughout Nevada together to get a sense of the overall plan and avoid duplicating interests. Dr. Sanders stated CDC wanted one coalition for Nevada. However, after hearing state issues, CDC realized it might be difficult, geographically, to accomplish.
- **Goal #5** is to enhance the oral disease surveillance system by continuing to collect, analyze and disseminate data to support program activity. Ms. Forsch reported being in the process of planning a basic screening survey of Head Start children. Thara Salamone noted the screening would only be representative of high-risk populations. Ms. Salamone is waiting for the ethnic breakdown of the Head Starts to complete the sample. The sample will consist of approximately 2500 children. Funding is available from CDC to contract with hygienists to do the screening. The basic screening survey of the senior population will be conducted in the 2004/2005 fiscal year. Every screening will be on a 3-year cycle.
- **Goal #6** is to identify prevention opportunities for systematic, socio-political and/or policy change to improve oral health by conducting a periodic assessment of policy and systems level strategies with potential to reduce oral disease. The State Board of Dental Examiners (SBDE) has proposed a rules change to allow hygienists to determine the suitability of a tooth for a sealant. Dr. William Busch noted the SBDE appreciates the changes and needs of the dental community. Ms. Forsch noted licensure by credential (SB133) would be sunseting in 2005. The Southern Coalition has created a team to facilitate discussion among stakeholders to review options when SB133 sunsets.
- **Goal #7** is to develop and coordinate partnerships to increase State level and community capacity to address specific oral disease prevention intervention. Laurie Nickles continues to conduct Early Childhood Caries Prevention training. Prevent Abuse and Neglect Through Dental Awareness (P.A.N.D.A.) letters were sent to every dental office in Nevada informing them of the training available. Ms. Nickles has received 50 requests for P.A.N.D.A. training so far. The Oral Health Curriculum is being pilot tested in school districts. The Department of Education has been very helpful during the process. Ms. Nickles reported the Clark County Public Health Nurses are instituting fluoride varnish. They have purchased \$11,000 worth of varnish. Ms. Forsch reviewed the Schools to Careers Program. Dennis Murphy reported on the media campaign. He noted 4,917 spots have been aired with a value of \$415,970. A new commercial is being shot. Ms. Forsch and Dr. Sanders met with Bob Fisher of Nevada Broadcaster Association recently and discussed the possibility of using celebrities or highly recognized individuals for radio spots. Barbara Hunt, Kristi Yamaguchi, Shelley Berkeley, Dema Guinn, and Toni Tennille were considered. A \$100,000 grant has been received from HRSA with \$50,000 going to Health Access Washoe County to conduct an Early Childhood Caries Prevention Program. One hundred pregnant woman and their babies will be tracked for 2 years. Joseph Patero congratulated Ms. Forsch on receipt of the grant. The remainder of the grant will be given to GBPCA to work with the Community Coalition for Oral Health, the Nevada Dental Association, and the Southern Nevada Dental Association, with the purpose of developing a network of volunteer dentists in southern Nevada. GBPCA submitted a grant application to HRSA, Bureau of Primary Health Care. They received \$75,000 to partially fund a Community Development Director, who will be located in Southern Nevada. This position will coordinate the dental program.
- **Goal #8** is to coordinate and implement a limited community water fluoridation program. Lori Cofano has developed a good relationship with the Bureau Health Protection Services in terms of conducting water fluoridation inspections and the training of engineers. Ms. Cofano and Ms.

Salamone were able to obtain data from the United States Geological Survey on naturally occurring levels of fluoride in Nevada. They are working with the University of Nevada, Reno to develop a map showing locations. A water fluoridation meter will be purchased if more information is needed. Ms. Cofano attended a course presented by California fluoridation processors. They suggest building coalitions and laying the groundwork by presenting various oral health issues to build community awareness and trust. Lyon County could be targeted through the Healthy Smiles Lyon County Board.

- **Goal #9** is to evaluate, document and share State program accomplishments, best practices, lessons learned and use of evaluation results. It was noted Nevada has accomplished the most in the shortest amount of time. Ms. Forsch was commended by OHAC.
- **Goal #10** is to develop, coordinate and implement limited school-based or school linked dental sealant programs. The Dental Sealant Program has been started at four schools in Nye County.

Michelle Kling motioned to accept the Oral Health Program Report and Mr. Patero seconded. **MOTION APPROVED.** Dr. Rosenberg spoke regarding the Tort Claims Act on Tribal Clinics, referring back to Goal 7. He noted the Federal Tort Claims Act does not cover providers when they are providing care to a non-beneficiary. Unlicensed providers in Nevada are unable to purchase private mal-practice insurance. Providers at tribal clinics could seek a Geographically Restricted or Temporary Nevada license.

#### **COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND VOTE REGARDING ORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE BYLAWS**

Ms. Kling questioned how it was decided to have 13 members appointed to OHAC. Ms. Forsch stated it is required to have an odd number of members for quorum purposes and Yvonne Sylva requested 13 members. There is currently one vacancy for a member of the Hispanic community. OHAC suggested the following changes to the Bylaws: Article 3, 3.2 should read "The Advisory Committee consists of no more than thirteen members to be appointed....", Article 5, 5.1.1 should read "The Chairperson and Vice-chairperson shall be elected at the first meeting...", Article 5, 5.1.4 should read "Terms of office shall be for two (2) years with eligibility for re-election for one additional consecutive term.", Article 5, 5.2.1 should read "When a vacancy occurs in the office of Chairperson, the Vice-chairperson shall assume the office and duties of Chairperson for current term.", and under Article 5, add section 5.3.3, which should read "In the absence of the Chairperson and Vice-chairperson, the Chairperson shall appoint a proxy." Pastor Steele motioned to approve the Bylaws as amended and Mr. Patero seconded. **MOTION APPROVED.**

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT AND DISCUSSION**

There was no public comment. Mr. Johnson expressed the importance of network linking and identifying who would be linked. Dr. Rosenberg stated the Indian Health Service has regional or area specialists available to call if assistance is needed. Partnering with dental schools should also be considered. Ms. Forsch has come across specific grants for telemedicine and as infrastructure is in place, they can be pursued. She will discuss mentoring and partnership issues with Dr. Victor Sandoval from the UNLV Dental School.

#### **COMMITTEE CALENDAR – DETERMINE DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next meeting was tentatively set for Las Vegas at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, March 12, 2004. The location in Las Vegas will be announced. Ms. Forsch stated she would email the Committee to finalize details of a networking meeting per Mr. Elams request. **\*NOTE: Meeting date rescheduled to March 19, 2004.**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at **12:25 p.m.**